De La Salle University

University Student Government Constitution 2025

Article I. Name and Seat

Section 1. The name of this student government, established under this Constitution, shall be known as the De La Salle University Student Government, which shall hereinafter be referred to as the USG.

Section 2. The seat of the USG shall be in De La Salle University with the address 2401 Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila, Philippines, which shall hereafter be referred to as the University.

Article II. Membership

Section 3. All members of the USG shall be *bona fide* undergraduate students of De La Salle University.

Article III. Declaration of Principles, Purposes, and Policies

A. Principles

Section 4. The USG shall have the power that emanates from the student body. It shall be the sole, unified, autonomous, and democratic representative body of the students.

Section 5. The USG shall recognize the importance of the University's Mission Statement of "leading a learner-centered and research university bridging faith and scholarship, attuned to a sustainable Earth, and in the service of Church and society, especially the poor and marginalized".

Section 5.1. The Mission Statement shall serve as the guide of the USG in achieving the collective interest of the students.

Section 5.2. The USG believes that the true importance of the Mission Statement lies in putting these ideals into action.

Section 6. The USG is founded on the principles of representation, participatory democracy, decentralization, collaboration, equitability, accountability, unity and cooperation, and efficiency and efficacy in the delivery of services.

Section 7. The USG shall adhere to the policy of cooperation with other sectors of the Lasallian community.

Section 8. No ex post facto law or bill of attainder shall be enacted under the USG.

B. Purposes

Section 9. The USG shall be at the forefront of the students' struggle for their rights and welfare, as embodied in Article IV of this Constitution, the University's Student Charter, and the laws of the land.

Section 10. The USG shall help foster the physical, intellectual, moral, cultural, civic, spiritual, and political interests of the students, as long as these are not contrary to the University's vision and mission.

Section 11. The USG shall develop critical thinking among the student body and encourage all students to unite and utilize their knowledge, skills, and resources to contribute to nation-building.

Section 12. The USG, recognizing the vital role of the youth in nation-building, shall encourage all students to be aware and sensitive to the universal needs of their time.

Section 13. The USG shall foster a progressive and innovative academic institution.

Section 14. The USG shall be in solidarity with the Filipino people by partaking in efforts to work towards genuine freedom and democracy.

C. Policies

Section 15. The USG shall pursue an independent stand, not dictated by any sector other than the students.

Section 16. The USG shall value academic freedom, peace based on justice, and the equality of gender, religion, and race.

Section 17. The USG shall encourage student and sectoral organizations to promote the welfare of the students.

Section 18. The USG shall establish and maintain relevant linkages with various offices, sectoral, and cause-oriented groups within and outside the University to create venues for resource-sharing.

Section 19. The USG shall pursue a policy of dialogue with other student governments, movements, and the marginalized sectors of society, consonant with its principles and purposes.

Section 20. The USG shall pursue a Lasallian education that is holistic, competitive, and of high standards, ensuring that it develops Lasallians for the nation. The USG shall also fight for a relevant, nationalistic, scientific, liberating, and mass-oriented system of education.

Section 21. The USG shall struggle against all forms of exploitation, oppression, and corruption.

Section 22. The USG shall renounce instruments of policy, activities, and undertakings that are violent in nature and/or are contrary to the rules and regulations of the University and/or the laws of the land.

Section 23. The USG shall adopt and implement a policy of public disclosure of all its transactions involving the interests of its members.

Article IV. Bill of Rights

Section 24. Every student has the right to be properly informed of the programs, rules, regulations, and policies of the academic community.

Section 25. Every student has the right to have access to their official records and other pertinent documents and papers pertaining to official acts, transactions, or decisions from the DLSU Administration.

Section 26. Every student has the right to receive professional competence from the faculty and administration.

Section 27. Every student has the right to be academically evaluated based on fair and objective criteria.

Section 28. Every student has the right to conduct scholarly research freely and to publish, discuss, and exchange findings and recommendations for the purpose of academic development.

Section 29. Every student has the right to suffrage.

Section 29.1. Every student has the right to vote for representatives and officers of the USG.

Section 29.2. Every student has the right to exercise other electoral practices.

Section 30. Every student has the right to actively participate in the USG.

Section 31. Every student has the right to hold their representatives accountable through the recall and impeachment process.

Section 32. Every student has the right to proper representation and participation in all policy-making bodies inside the University.

Section 33. Every student has the right to regular student-faculty and student-administration dialogue.

Section 34. Every student has the right to assemble and to freely and responsibly express their views, opinions, and grievances.

Section 35. Every student has the right to objective presentation and independent operation of the student-controlled publications, subject to the canons of responsible journalism.

Section 36. Every student has the right to establish, organize, join, and actively participate in clubs, organizations, groups, and other associations for purposes not contrary to existing policies.

Section 37. Every student has the right to due process and the equal protection of the laws.

Section 38. Every student has the right to the legitimate and responsible use of adequate, safe, clean, and efficient school facilities.

Section 39. Every student has the right to apply for a USG position.

Section 40. All other rights as specified in the Student Handbook and the University's Student Charter but are not specified herein are included as rights of the students.

Article V. Duties and Responsibilities of Students

Section 41. Every student shall observe and uphold the laws of the land, the rules and regulations of the University as stipulated in the Student Handbook, and this Constitution.

Section 42. Every student shall exercise their rights responsibly and in good faith.

Section 43. Every student shall uphold the academic integrity of the University, endeavor to achieve academic excellence, and abide by the rules and regulations governing their academic responsibilities.

Section 44. Every student shall promote and maintain the peace and tranquility of the University by observing the rules of discipline and by exerting efforts to attain harmonious relationships with fellow students, the administrators, the teaching academic staff, and other University personnel.

Section 45. Every student shall uphold, preserve, and maintain the integrity of their Alma Mater.

Section 46. Every student shall participate actively in civic affairs and in the promotion of the general welfare, particularly in the social, economic, and cultural development of their community and in the attainment of a just, compassionate, and orderly society.

Article VI. Accountability of USG Officers

Section 47. All USG officers shall, at all times, be accountable to the student body, whom they must serve with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, efficiency, and professionalism.

Section 48. All USG officers shall adhere to the Student Handbook, this Constitution, and all laws, policies, rules, and regulations of the USG and the University. Should there be discrepancies or conflict between the USG and the University, the policies and laws of the latter shall prevail.

Impeachment

Section 49. The President, Vice President for Internal Affairs, Vice President for External Affairs, Treasurer, Campus Presidents, College Presidents, Legislators, College Representatives, Batch Representatives, holders of other elective positions as defined herein, Magistrates of the Judiciary,

Commissioners of the Constitutional Commissions, the Ombudsman, and Deputy Ombudsmen may only be removed from office through impeachment for, and conviction of, culpable violation of the Constitution, graft and corruption, other violations within the grounds for impeachment, or betrayal of public trust.

Section 50. The following shall be grounds for impeachment:

Section 50.1. Any willful violation of this Constitution and its by-laws;
Section 50.2. Any form of gross negligence of duty as provided by law;
Section 50.3. Any form of illegal or unauthorized disbursement of funds;
Section 50.4. Any behavior that undermines the integrity of the USG; and
Section 50.5. Any form of gross misconduct as provided by law.

Section 51. Other than impeachment, all other USG officers may be removed from office as provided by law.

Section 52. Any undergraduate student, except for the Magistrates of the Judiciary, may initiate the impeachment of any of the aforementioned officers by filing a resolution of impeachment addressed to the Chief Magistrate.

Section 52.1. The Supreme Court en banc shall order investigations of cases of impeachment on its own or on the basis of written complaints from any undergraduate student within seven (7) regular school days, which excludes Sundays, non-working holidays, and class suspensions. The Judiciary shall decide within this period whether or not to proceed with impeachment. Failure to meet this deadline shall warrant automatic dismissal of the complaint.

Section 52.2. The Supreme Court en banc shall serve notice of impeachment to the officer concerned at least four (4) days before the set hearing date. The officer must take a leave of absence once notice of impeachment is served to them.

Section 52.3. Once a notice of impeachment has been served, an officer shall no longer be allowed to resign from their position until the conclusion of impeachment proceedings.

Section 52.4. Impeachment cases shall be heard and tried with all the Magistrates in attendance. Decisions on impeachment shall be made by the Supreme Court en banc.

Section 52.5. Magistrates unavailable during an impeachment hearing must submit an official excuse letter a day before or after the hearing. Such an excuse must be valid, as provided in the USG Judiciary Rules of Internal Governance.

Section 52.6. The Supreme Court en banc shall impose the necessary sanctions. All decisions of the Supreme Court en banc on matters of impeachment are final and executory.

Section 52.7. All elected and appointed USG officers, whether incumbent or not, may be subject to impeachment proceedings in Article VI of this Constitution.

Section 52.8. Impeachment shall result in the immediate removal of said officer from the USG and their position and a perpetual ban from running for or being appointed to any USG office.

Section 53. Impeachment complaints against any of the Magistrates of the Judiciary shall be addressed to the President, who shall then inform the Legislative Assembly through the Chief Legislator and the rest of the Executive Committee. A special body, chaired by the President, comprising the members of the Legislative Assembly and the Executive Committee, shall conduct the impeachment proceedings against the said Magistrate. Voting separately, the Executive Committee and the Legislative Assembly must each attain a two-thirds (⅔) majority to impeach a Magistrate. The proceedings shall be resolved within three weeks.

Office of the Ombudsman

Section 54. There shall be an independent Office of the Ombudsman, composed of one Ombudsman, one Overall Deputy Ombudsman, and Deputy Ombudsmen equal to the number of colleges present within the University.

Section 55. The independent Office of the Ombudsman shall be the primary investigative body that shall take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption within the University Student Government.

Section 56. The independent Office of the Ombudsman shall have primary jurisdiction to enforce the mandate of officers found within this article.

Section 57. The Ombudsman shall appoint officers other than the Deputy Ombudsmen for administrative and operational support necessary to fulfill its obligation to the student body according to relevant laws governing the Office of the Ombudsman.

Section 58. The Ombudsman and Deputy Ombudsmen shall be *bona fide* undergraduate students of the University, and, at the time of their appointment, be of recognized probity and independence, passed the qualifications provided by the Judiciary for those engaging in legal practice as Counsel Officers or as Magistrates or by the Office of the Ombudsman as Prosecutors, and must not have actively supported or have been a part of any political party or student media group for three (3) consecutive academic terms.

Section 59. The Deputy Ombudsmen shall be appointed by the President of their own volition or from a list of nominees provided by either the Judiciary or the Office of the Ombudsman. Such appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the Legislative Assembly. The

Deputy Ombudsmen shall elect among themselves the Ombudsman and the Overall Deputy Ombudsman.

Section 60. The Ombudsman shall appoint the Prosecutor General and Prosecutors, who shall be *bona fide* undergraduate students of the University, and, at the time of their appointment, be of recognized probity and independence, and must meet the qualifications provided by the Office of the Ombudsman.

Section 61. The Office of the Ombudsman shall have the following rights pursuant to its administrative function as an independent investigative body:

Section 61.1. Right to fiscal autonomy and other rights an independent office is entitled to that are necessary to fulfill its role as an independent body; and

Section 61.2. Right to adopt its own rules of internal governance.

Section 62. The Office of the Ombudsman shall have the following powers, functions, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 62.1. Investigate on its own or on complaint by any student, any act or omission of any USG office or USG officer when such act or omission appears to be illegal, unjust, improper, or inefficient;

Section 62.2. Upon complaint or at its own instance, direct any USG unit or USG officer to perform and expedite any act or duty mandated by the USG Constitution or its by-laws, or to stop, prevent, and correct any abuse or impropriety in the performance of duties;

Section 62.3. As protectors of the student body, act promptly on complaints filed in any form or manner against any USG office or USG officer, and shall, in appropriate cases, notify the complainants of the actions taken and the result thereof;

Section 62.4. Upon complaint or at its own instance, direct to take appropriate action against a USG officer at fault, and recommend or file a verified complaint, whichever is necessary, for the officer's removal, suspension, or prosecution, to the appropriate office or body;

Section 62.5. Prosecute on its own or on complaint cases on graft, malversation of funds, corruption, illegal disbursement of funds, and/or economic and/or financial violations;

Section 62.6. Upon complaint or at its own instance, direct the officer concerned, in any appropriate case, and subject to such limitations as may be provided in the USG Constitution and by law, to furnish it with copies of documents relating to contracts and transactions entered into by any USG office involving the disbursement or use of public funds or properties, and report any irregularity to the Commission on Audit for appropriate action;

Section 62.7. Request any USG office for assistance and information necessary in the discharge of its responsibilities, and to examine, whenever necessary, pertinent records and documents;

Section 62.8. Publicize with due prudence any matter covered by its investigation when circumstances so warrant, subject to limitations as may be provided by the Rules on Investigation;

Section 62.9. Determine the causes of inefficiency, red tape, mismanagement, fraud, and corruption in the University Student Government and make recommendations for their elimination and the observance of high standards of ethics and efficiency;

Section 62.10. Punish for contempt any person subject to any proceeding by the Office of the Ombudsman in accordance with the standards set in the Rules of Court and issue subpoenas and take testimony in any investigation, inquiry, or inspection;

Section 62.11. Delegate to Deputies, its investigators, or representatives such authority or duty as shall ensure the effective and efficient exercise or performance of the powers, functions, and duties herein provided or hereinafter provided;

Section 62.12. Investigate and discipline all kinds of malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance that may have been committed by any USG officer during their tenure and coordinate with a Counsel Officer to prosecute upon discovery of probable cause; and

Section 62.13. Promulgate its rules and procedures and exercise other powers to perform functions or duties as an independent investigative body as may be provided by law. Further, such rules and procedures are subject to the limitations provided by existing rules on investigation.

Article VII. Executive Board

Section 63. The Executive Board, hereinafter referred to as the EB, shall be the highest governing body and representative authority of the USG. Executive power shall be vested in the President of the University Student Government.

Section 64. The EB shall comprise the President, the Vice President for Internal Affairs, the Vice President for External Affairs, the Treasurer, and the Campus Presidents.

Section 65. The EB shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 65.1. To uphold and enforce the provisions stipulated in this Constitution and its bylaws;

Section 65.2. To outline and enforce basic policies that shall facilitate the performance of its duties and responsibilities;

Section 65.3. To discuss, coordinate, and deliberate upon national, sectoral, and university-wide issues and academic-related matters, projects, programs, and campaigns;

Section 65.4. To ensure fair, efficient, and effective representation in all University committees whose services and decisions affect the welfare of the students; and

Section 65.5. To create departments, committees, and other such bodies under the Cabinet as necessary to properly discharge its functions.

Section 66. Each member of the EB shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 66.1. The President shall:

Section 66.1.1. Be the Chief Executive Officer of the USG;

Section 66.1.2. Be the official representative and spokesperson of the USG at any function, meeting, or assembly within and outside the University;

Section 66.1.3. Preside over the meetings of the Cabinet and other such bodies as may be provided in this Constitution or by law;

Section 66.1.4. Have the prerogative to veto any act, resolution, or measure of the Legislative Assembly;

Section 66.1.4.1. A veto must be communicated to the Executive Secretary within five (5) working days upon the approval of the measure in question. The Executive Secretary shall communicate the veto to the Chief Legislator, who shall in turn inform the rest of the Legislative Assembly.

Section 66.1.4.2. A veto may be overridden by a two-thirds (⅔) absolute majority vote of the Legislative Assembly.

Section 66.1.5. Oversee and coordinate all the affairs, whether internal or external, of the USG;

Section 66.1.6. Initiate and oversee the implementation of all decisions of the Legislative Assembly;

Section 66.1.7. Ensure the compliance of all officers with this Constitution and laws and direct their investigation whenever necessary as may be provided by law;

Section 66.1.8. Appoint representatives to external alliances, seminars, sectoral organizations, University-wide bodies, councils, committees, and other functions requiring such representation and appointment. Such representatives may either be any officer of the USG or be appointed specifically for that purpose;

Section 66.1.9. Monitor and control all units, offices, commissions, departments, committees, and other such bodies under the Executive Branch;

Section 66.1.10. Exercise general supervision over the Campus and College Governments;

Section 66.1.11. Issue executive orders and other issuances as may be prescribed or defined by law;

Section 66.1.12. Grant pardon to any officer of the USG and the student body who have been found guilty by the Supreme Court of violating this Constitution and standing laws, policies, rules, and regulations of the USG; no pardon shall be granted for those guilty of impeachment, violations of the election code, or violations of the Student Handbook;

Section 66.1.13. Regularly receive reports from and convene student representatives sitting in University-wide bodies, committees, and councils;

Section 66.1.14. Have primary jurisdiction to establish avenues and networks for coordination and collaboration with other student governments and other similar entities;

Section 66.1.15. Implement programs, projects, and initiatives concerning national, sectoral, and University-wide issues and concerns; and

Section 66.1.16. Coordinate and lead all policy-making efforts of the USG in University-wide policy-making bodies.

Section 66.1.17. Monitor the activities, projects, and programs of the Executive Branch.

Section 66.2. The Vice President for Internal Affairs shall:

Section 66.2.1. Report directly to the President;

Section 66.2.2. Be the Chief Operating Officer of the USG;

Section 66.2.3. Be the coordinating officer of the internal affairs of the USG under the direction of the President;

Section 66.2.4. Automatically assume the Presidency should the position be permanently vacated. In the event of the temporary incapacity, absence, or vacancy of the President, assume the responsibilities of the President until their return;

Section 66.2.5. Spearhead, supervise, and lead the planning of all activities and projects of the University that warrant the participation of the USG as directed by the President;

Section 66.2.6. Coordinate and lead all efforts of the USG in addressing all matters concerning student welfare, student support, academic concerns, and other such topics; and

Section 66.2.7. Implement programs, projects, and initiatives concerning student welfare, student support, academic concerns, and other related issues under the direction of the President.

Section 66.3. The Vice President for External Affairs shall:

Section 66.3.1. Report directly to the President;

Section 66.3.2. Be the Chief External Affairs Officer of the USG;

Section 66.3.3. Automatically assume the Presidency in the event that both the Presidency and the Internal Affairs Vice Presidency are permanently vacated;

Section 66.3.4. Assume the responsibilities of the President in an acting capacity in the event of the temporary absence, incapacity, or vacancy of the President in external matters until such time as the President resumes office;

Section 66.3.5. Be the coordinating officer of the external affairs of the USG under the direction of the President;

Section 66.3.6. Coordinate with the College Governments and Campus Governments with regard to external affairs of the USG;

Section 66.3.7. Implement programs and initiatives concerning national and sectoral issues under the direction of the President; and

Section 66.3.8. Establish alliances with external entities on specific issues or campaigns under the direction of the President.

Section 66.4. The Treasurer shall:

Section 66.4.1. Report directly to the President;

Section 66.4.2. Be the Chief Financial Officer of the USG;

Section 66.4.3. Act as custodian of the funds of the USG and enforce standard operating procedures within the USG with regard to its financial system;

Section 66.4.4. Be responsible for the design and implementation of a comprehensive financial management plan, encompassing all funds and financial resources within the jurisdiction of the USG, under the direction of the President;

Section 66.4.5. Be in charge of the preparation of the annual budget, for which allocation must be given to all the units of the USG. Said budget shall be formulated and executed in strict accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and other legal instruments as determined, provided, or set by the Legislative Assembly;

Section 66.4.6. Require financial documents necessary for the maintenance of an effective monitoring system;

Section 66.4.7. Collect and summarize needed data in the preparation of financial reports dealing with all phases of the financial, accounting, and operating activities of the USG;

Section 66.4.8. Prepare trimestral financial reports dealing with all phases of the financial activities of the offices under the USG structure and present such reports to all offices concerned;

Section 66.4.9. Safeguard cash temporarily on hand and maintain banking connections for the regular deposit and savings accounts within the USG;

Section 66.4.10. Make periodic reviews of the income and expenditure status of each budgetary unit for any needed remedial action;

Section 66.4.11. Review and monitor all receipts and disbursements of funds within the USG;

Section 66.4.12. Prepare an annual financial report of the USG for examination by the Legislative Assembly; and

Section 66.4.13. Implement programs, projects, and initiatives concerning fiscal management, scholarships, fundraising, and other such matters under the direction of the President.

Section 66.5. There shall be a Cabinet, which shall be the shared office and unit of the EB and the primary mechanism for exercising powers, duties, and responsibilities of the President, Vice President for Internal Affairs, Vice President for External Affairs, and Treasurer.

Section 66.6. The Cabinet shall comprise the President, the Vice President for Internal Affairs, the Vice President for External Affairs, the Treasurer, the Executive Secretary, the Attorney General, and other Cabinet-level officers.

Section 66.6.1. The Executive Secretary shall:

Section 66.6.1.1. Be appointed by the President with the consent of the rest of the EB;

Section 66.6.1.2. Report directly to the President;

Section 66.6.1.3. Be the coordinating officer of the Cabinet and serve as its Chief of Staff;

Section 66.6.1.4. Act as the custodian of all records, papers, and documents of the USG, including all acts, resolutions, issuances, and reports of all units and offices. They shall establish a system for the proper and sustainable archival of such;

Section 66.6.1.5. Oversee the administration and ensure the proper functioning of the offices, departments, committees, and other such bodies under the Cabinet;

Section 66.6.1.6. Handle all correspondences of the USG as directed by the EB, including correspondences with both internal and external units, offices, organizations, alliances, and the like;

Section 66.6.1.7. Be responsible for the management of the offices and workspaces of the USG as directed by the President;

Section 66.6.1.8. Prepare the agenda of the meetings of and convene the Cabinet in consultation with its members and as directed by the President;

Section 66.6.1.9. Handle the information dissemination and publicity system of the USG, including its public relations, marketing, branding, and the like; and

Section 66.6.1.10. Perform other functions as deemed necessary by the President, the EB, and the Legislative Assembly.

Section 66.7. Except for the Executive Secretary and as may otherwise be provided by law for an office or position, all Cabinet-level appointees shall be appointed by the EB and confirmed by the Legislative Assembly.

Section 66.7.1. Unless their appointment is expressly rejected by the Legislative Assembly, a Cabinet-level officer shall remain in office until such time as the Legislative Assembly decides upon their appointment.

Section 66.7.2. All Cabinet-level officers shall serve at the pleasure of the EB and may be dismissed, replaced, or transferred at any time by the same.

Section 66.7.3. Sitting Cabinet-level officers whom the new or incoming EB wishes to keep shall go through the same appointment process as though they were a new appointee.

Administrative Appeals Board

Section 67. There shall be an Administrative Appeals Board, which shall report directly to the Attorney General, who may chair the same, and shall consist of three (3) to nine (9) members at any given time, who the President shall appoint.

Section 67.1. It shall have jurisdiction over all matters concerning appealing administrative decisions and sanctions, which shall include dismissal, suspension, demotion, transfer, leave of absence, and resignation, except for orders, sanctions, and directives issued by the following:

Section 67.1.1. Legislative Assembly and its units
Section 67.1.2. Judiciary and its units
Section 67.1.3. Office of the Ombudsman
Section 67.1.4. Constitutional Commissions
Section 67.1.5. Independent, statutory units

Section 67.2. The Legislative Assembly shall prescribe the qualifications for the members of the Administrative Appeals Board.

Section 67.3. The President shall provide the rules of procedure for appeals in consultation with the Administrative Appeals Board.

Section 67.4. All rulings of the Administrative Appeals Board may be appealed to the Supreme Court.

Article VIII. Executive Committee

Section 68. The Executive Committee, which shall hereinafter be referred to as the EXECOM, shall be an advisory and coordinating body, which shall be composed of the President, Vice President for Internal Affairs, Vice President for External Affairs, Treasurer, Campus Presidents, and College Presidents.

Section 69. Other officers may be permitted or invited to join and participate in the discussions of the EXECOM at the discretion of the President.

Section 70. The EXECOM shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

Section 70.1. Advise the President and, if applicable, other members of the EB on matters related to policy and programs.

Section 70.2. Discuss national, sectoral, and University-wide issues and academic-related concerns.

Section 70.3. Serve as an avenue for raising concerns that are relevant to the members of the EXECOM.

Section 70.4. Provide an avenue for the EB to discuss their plans and get the insights of the College Presidents.

Section 70.5. Explore coordinations and collaborations, whenever possible, especially on matters that are University-wide in scope; and

Section 70.6. Perform other functions as may be deemed necessary by the EB.

Section 71. The EXECOM may be convened regularly by the President in consultation with other members of the EXECOM.

Section 72. Any member of the EXECOM may request special meetings as they may deem necessary, subject to the approval of the President.

Article IX. Campus Governments

Section 73. The Campus Government shall be composed of *bona fide* undergraduate students of a campus.

Section 73.1. Except for the current seat of the USG, campuses where at least two colleges offer undergraduate programs shall have their own campus governments.

Section 74. The Campus Government Executive Board shall be the highest governing body and representative authority of a campus.

Section 75. The Campus Government Executive Board shall be composed of the Campus President, the Campus Secretary, and the Campus Treasurer and shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 75.1. Discuss and decide on matters which are pertinent to their campus.

Section 75.2. Determine the vision and mission of the Campus Government and ensure that resources are made available towards their attainment.

Section 75.3. Outline and enforce basic policies that shall facilitate the performance of their duties and responsibilities.

Section 75.4. Execute all policies and directives issued by the Legislative Assembly that are pertinent to their campus.

Section 75.5. Handle the affairs of the campus and the needs of the different colleges, programs, and batches under their campus.

Section 75.6. Organize and implement programs for their campus.

Section 75.7. Enforce programs of the EB in their campus.

Section 75.8. Create departments and committees as may be necessary to discharge its functions.

Section 75.9. Encourage all students from their campus to participate in all USG and University-wide programs.

Section 75.10. Partner and/or consult with all organizations, sectors, and groups within their campus.

Section 75.11. Ensure transparency and accountability in all Campus Government activities.

Section 75.12. Prepare the Rules of Internal Governance of the Campus Government within the framework of this Constitution and relevant statutes passed by their Campus Legislative Board and the Legislative Assembly.

Section 76. The Campus Government shall have an executive committee which shall be composed of the Campus President, the Campus Secretary, the Campus Treasurer, the College Presidents whose seats are in their campus, and the College Representatives in their campus, if any.

Section 77. The Campus President shall:

Section 77.1. Report directly to the President.

Section 77.2. Be the Chief Executive Officer of the Campus Government.

Section 77.3. Update the rest of the EB on projects, programs, and concerns pertinent to their campus.

Section 77.4. Be the official spokesperson of their campus in any function, meeting, or assembly.

Section 77.5. Oversee and coordinate the affairs of all units under the Executive Branch whose seats are in their campus.

Section 77.6. Initiate the implementation of all decisions of the Legislative Assembly that apply to their campus.

Section 77.7. Have the authority and power to veto ordinances and resolutions passed by their respective Campus Legislative Board.

Section 77.7.1. A veto must be communicated to the Campus Legislative Board within five (5) working days upon the approval of the measure in question.

Section 77.7.2. A veto may be overridden by a two-thirds (⅔) absolute majority vote of the Campus Legislative Board.

Section 77.8. Implement programs, projects, and initiatives that are pertinent to their campus and their constituents.

Section 78. The Campus Secretary shall:

Section 78.1. Report directly to the Campus President.

Section 78.2. Take charge of the daily, administrative affairs of the Campus Government.

Section 78.3. Be the coordinating officer of the Campus Government and serve as its Chief of Staff.

Section 78.4. Act as the custodian of all records, papers, and documents of the Campus Government.

Section 78.5. Handle all correspondences of the Campus Government as directed by the Campus President, including correspondences with both internal and external units, offices, organizations, alliances, and the like.

Section 78.6. Be responsible for the management of the offices and workspaces of the Campus Government as directed by the Campus President.

Section 78.7. Prepare the agenda of the meetings of and convene the Campus Government Executive Board and Executive Committee in consultation with its members and as directed by the Campus President.

Section 78.8. Supervise the information dissemination and publicity system of the Campus Government, including its public relations, marketing, branding, and the like.

Section 79. The Campus Treasurer shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 79.1. Report directly to the Campus President.

Section 79.2. Coordinate with the Executive Treasurer on matters of finance as may be necessary.

Section 79.3. Design and implement a financial management plan for the funds, financial resources, and accounts of the Campus Government as directed by the Campus President.

Section 79.4. Coordinate with the Treasurer in preparing the budget of the Campus Government and its units for the general appropriations, which shall be part of the annual budget to be approved by the Legislative Assembly.

Section 79.5. Require financial documents necessary for the maintenance of an effective monitoring system.

Section 79.6. Collect and summarize needed data in the preparation of financial reports dealing with all phases of the financial, accounting, and operating activities of the Campus Government.

Section 79.7. Safeguard cash temporarily on hand and maintain connections for the regular deposit, savings, and other monetary accounts of the Campus Government.

Section 79.8. Monitor fundraising activities initiated by units under the Campus Government.

Section 79.9. Implement programs, projects, and initiatives concerning fiscal management, scholarships, fundraising, and other such matters for their campus.

Campus Legislative Board

Section 80. The Campus Legislative Board shall be an aid to the Campus Government and shall act as the highest law-making body of the Campus Government.

Section 81. The Campus Legislative Board shall be composed of all College Legislators and Chairpersons of the College Legislative Boards under their campus.

Section 82. The Campus Legislative Board shall concern itself with discussing and deciding on the following matters:

Section 82.1. Policies, operations, projects, and programs of the Campus Government.

Section 82.2. Enacting and approving ordinances or resolutions of curricular and extra-curricular matters which are campus-wide and do not contravene any University-wide law or executive order.

Section 82.3. Representation of administrative and non-administrative units and committees requiring such within the college.

Section 82.4. Creation of standing and *ad hoc* committees for the campus whose functions shall be determined by the body.

Section 83. The Campus Legislative Board shall follow the provisions on campus legislation as provided by the Legislative Assembly.

Section 84. The members of the Campus Legislative Board shall meet at least once a month.

Section 85. Any member of the Campus Legislative Board may call special meetings if deemed necessary.

Section 86. The Campus Legislative Board shall constitute a quorum of no less than two-thirds (⅔) of its members.

Section 87. A final decision must be reached via a majority (50% + 1) of those present.

Article X. College Governments

Section 88. The College Government, which shall hereinafter be referred to as the CG, shall be composed of *bona fide* undergraduate students of each respective college.

Section 89. The CG Executive Board, which shall hereinafter be referred to as CG-EB, shall be the highest governing body and representative authority of each respective college.

Section 90. The CG-EB shall comprise the College President, all Batch Representatives from the college, and their respective College Representatives from other campuses.

Section 90.1. There shall be at most four Batch Representatives per college. Starting from the first year students up until the fourth year students, each batch shall be entitled to one Representative.

Section 90.2. There shall be one College Representative for each college present on a campus, except for the campus where the seat of the college government is located.

Section 91. The CG-EB shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 91.1. Discuss and decide on matters which are pertinent to their respective college and batches.

Section 91.2. Determine the vision and mission of the CG and ensure that resources are made available towards their attainment.

Section 91.3. Outline and enforce basic policies that shall facilitate the performance of their duties and responsibilities.

Section 91.4. Execute all policies and directives issued by the Legislative Assembly that are pertinent to their college.

Section 91.5. Handle the affairs of the college and the needs of the different programs and batches under their college.

Section 91.6. Organize and implement programs for their college.

Section 91.7. Enforce programs of the EB in their college and its batches.

Section 91.8. Create departments and committees as may be necessary to discharge its functions.

Section 91.9. Encourage all students from their college to participate in all USG and University-wide programs.

Section 91.10. Partner and/or consult with all home organizations, sectors, and groups within their college.

Section 91.11. Ensure transparency and accountability in all CG activities.

Section 91.12. Prepare the Rules of Internal Governance of the CG within the framework of this Constitution and relevant statutes passed by their College Legislative Board, the Legislative Assembly, and, if applicable, their Campus Legislative Board.

Section 92. The College Presidents shall:

Section 92.1. Report directly to the President and, if applicable, their Campus President.

Section 92.2. Be the Chief Executive Officer of the College Government.

Section 92.3. Head the CG and chair the CG-EB.

Section 92.4. Appoint a replacement from the CG-EB in case of their temporary incapacity or absence.

Section 92.5. Discuss and update the EB on college-wide programs and concerns.

Section 92.6. Spearhead the execution of all policies and directives issued by the Legislative Assembly that are pertinent to their respective colleges.

Section 92.7. Coordinate with the EB regarding University-wide issues and activities.

Section 92.8. Have the authority and power to veto college-wide ordinances and resolutions passed by the College Legislative Board.

Section 92.8.1. A veto must be communicated to the College Legislative Board within five (5) working days upon the approval of the measure in question.

Section 92.8.2. A veto may be overridden by a two-thirds (⅔) absolute majority vote of the College Legislative Board.

Section 92.9. Perform other functions as deemed necessary by the EB and the Legislative Assembly.

Section 93. The College Representatives shall:

Section 93.1. Report directly to the College President, the Campus President, and the President as deemed necessary.

Section 93.2. Represent their college and campus in the Campus Government and the CG, respectively, and other such bodies as may be necessary.

Section 93.3. Implement programs for their college on their respective campuses.

Section 93.4. Lead the execution of all policies and directives by the Legislative Assembly that are pertinent to their colleges in their respective campuses.

Section 93.5. Coordinate, alongside the Campus President and the College President, with the EB regarding college and University-wide issues and activities.

Section 93.6. Perform other functions as deemed necessary by the Campus President, the EB, the College President, and the Legislative Assembly.

Section 94. The Batch Representatives shall:

Section 94.1. Report directly to the College President and the President as deemed necessary.

Section 94.2. Represent their batch in the CG and other such bodies as may be necessary.

Section 94.3. Implement programs for their batch and college.

Section 94.4. Lead the execution of all policies and directives issued by the Legislative Assembly which are pertinent to their respective batches.

Section 94.5. Coordinate, alongside the College President, with the EB regarding college and University-wide issues and activities.

Section 94.6. Perform other functions as deemed necessary by the EB, the College President, and the Legislative Assembly.

College Legislative Board

Section 95. The College Legislative Board, hereinafter referred to as the CLB, shall be an aid to the CG and shall act as the highest law-making body of the CG.

Section 96. The CLB shall be composed of all Legislators from the college.

Section 96.1. There shall be no more than four Batch Legislators for each college at any given time. Each batch is entitled to only one legislator.

Section 96.2. There shall be one College Legislator for each college on a campus where it is present, except for the campus where the seat of the college government is located.

Section 96.3. There shall be no more than one College Legislator for each college on a campus at any given time.

Section 97. The CLB shall concern itself with discussing and deciding on the following matters:

Section 97.1. Policies, operations, projects, and programs of the CG.

Section 97.2. Enacting and approving ordinances or resolutions of curricular and extra-curricular matters which are college-wide or batch-wide and do not contravene any University-wide law or executive order.

Section 97.3. Representation of administrative and non-administrative units and committees requiring such within the college.

Section 97.4. Creation of standing and *ad hoc* committees for the college, whose functions shall be determined by the body.

Section 98. The CLB shall follow the provisions on college legislation as provided by the Legislative Assembly.

Section 99. The members of the CLB shall meet at least once a month.

Section 100. Any member of the CLB may call special meetings if deemed necessary.

Section 101. The CLB shall constitute a quorum of no less than two-thirds (⅔) of its members.

Section 102. A final decision must be reached via a majority (50% + 1) of those present.

Article XI. Legislative Assembly

Section 103. The Legislative Assembly, which shall hereinafter be referred to as LA, shall be the highest law-making body of the USG. Legislative power shall be vested in the LA, except to the extent reserved to the people by the provisions on initiative and referendum.

Section 104. The LA shall be composed of all College and Batch Legislators, who shall elect among themselves the Chief Legislator.

Section 104.1. The Chief Legislator shall be elected by the LA in its first session, which shall be called and presided over by the President until the election of the Chief Legislator. They shall be elected by an absolute majority of all the members of the LA.

Section 105. The LA shall adopt its own rules or manual for the purpose of defining its procedures and guidelines.

Section 106. The LA shall concern itself with discussing and deciding on the following matters:

Section 106.1. Laws, policies, operations, projects, and programs of the USG;

Section 106.2. University-wide, curricular, and extracurricular matters;

Section 106.3. National and sectoral issues;

Section 106.4. Representation in University-wide bodies and committees requiring such inside the campus;

Section 106.5. Budget allocation as presented by the Treasurer;

Section 106.6. Creation of standing and *ad hoc* departments, committees, and other such bodies whose functions shall be determined by the body;

Section 106.7. Appointment of officers to vacant elective positions; and

Section 106.8. Other such matters as may be provided in this Constitution.

Section 107. The Chief Legislator shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 107.1. Call and preside over the sessions of the LA and appoint from its members, except the Majority and Minority Floor Leaders, a replacement upon their incapacity or absence;

Section 107.2. Call and preside over the meetings of the LA Inner Circle and appoint from its members a replacement upon their incapacity or absence;

Section 107.3. Preserve order and decorum during sessions, and, in case of disturbance or disorderly conduct within the premises where the session is being held, take such measures as they may deem advisable or as the LA may direct;

Section 107.4. Rule on all questions of order, subject to appeal by any member of the LA;

Section 107.5. Sign and affix the seal of the USG in all resolutions, memorials, writs, warrants, and subpoenas issued by the LA;

Section 107.6. Enforce all rules, policies, and procedures governing the LA;

Section 107.7. Receive periodic reports from all units and members of the LA whose frequency of submission shall be at their discretion;

Section 107.8. Appoint Legislators to legislative committees as may be necessary;

Section 107.9. Be an *ex officio* member of all legislative committees;

Section 107.10. Have administrative supervision over the LA and all its units;

Section 107.11. Be the official and primary representative of the LA in functions that require its presence;

Section 107.12. Ensure that the LA follows parliamentary procedures properly during sessions;

Section 107.13. Establish their own office with its own departments and committees as they may deem necessary; and

Section 107.14. Manage the LA Journal for resolution transparency and continued monitoring for succeeding USG administrations.

Section 108. The Legislators shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 108.1. Report directly to the Chief Legislator on legislative matters;

Section 108.2. Participate actively in LA sessions;

Section 108.3. Conduct regular consultations with their constituents regarding academic and non-academic matters;

Section 108.4. Hold positions in other USG bodies and University-wide committees as appointed in their capacity either as a Legislator specifically or as an officer of the USG more generally;

Section 108.5. Handle their respective Legislative Boards together with other Legislators of their respective colleges and/or campuses;

Section 108.6. Review existing policies and legislation;

Section 108.7. Pass legislation and lobby policies that are of relevance to the student body;

Section 108.8. Be entitled to copies of all minutes, resolutions, and the like that concern legislative proceedings;

Section 108.9. Assist the Chief Legislator in managing the LA Journal; and

Section 108.10. Perform other functions as deemed necessary by the EB, their College President, their Campus President, the Chief Legislator, and the LA.

Article XII. Judiciary

Section 109. The Judiciary, through the Supreme Court, shall be the highest law-interpreting body of the USG. Judicial power shall be vested in one Supreme Court in the Judiciary and in such lower courts as may be established by law.

Section 110. Judicial power includes the duty of the Judiciary to settle actual controversies involving rights which are legally demandable and enforceable, and to determine whether or not there has been a grave abuse of discretion amounting to lack or excess of jurisdiction on the part of any branch or instrumentality of the USG.

Section 111. The Legislative Assembly shall have the power to establish, define, prescribe, and apportion the jurisdiction of the various lower courts but may not deprive the Supreme Court of its jurisdiction over cases enumerated in the section of its powers, duties, and responsibilities hereof. No law shall be passed reorganizing the Judiciary when it undermines the security of tenure of its Members.

Section 112. The Judiciary shall enjoy fiscal autonomy. Appropriations for the Judiciary may not be reduced below the amount appropriated for the previous year without its approval and, after approval, shall be automatically and regularly released.

Section 113. The Supreme Court shall be composed of a Chief Magistrate, a Deputy Chief Magistrate, and Associate Magistrates equal to the number of present colleges. It may sit en banc or, at its discretion, in divisions of three, five, or seven Magistrates except for impeachment cases, which shall be heard en banc.

Section 113.1. All cases involving the constitutionality, application, or operation of a law or executive order or action and cases concerning violations of any USG officer of this Constitution and its bylaws shall be decided with the concurrence of a majority of the Magistrates who took part in the deliberations on the issues in the case and voted thereon.

Section 113.2. Cases heard by a division shall be decided or resolved with the concurrence of a majority of the Magistrates who actually took part in the deliberations on the issues in the case and voted thereon, and in no case without the concurrence of at least three Magistrates. When the required number is not obtained, the case shall be decided en banc, provided that no doctrine or principle of law laid down by the court in a decision rendered en banc or in division may be modified or reversed except by the court sitting en banc of at least eight Magistrates.

Section 113.3. Decisions made by the Magistrates can be subject to appeal, provided that new evidence or points supporting the case of the accused are found. The process for such an appeal shall be provided for in the Rules of Court.

Section 114. The Supreme Court shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 114.1. To sit with Magistrates present to hear, try, and resolve, by a two-thirds majority vote of the Magistrates present, within three weeks on any complaint involving the constitutionality, legality, or jurisdiction of the acts, laws, policies, and resolutions of USG officers;

Section 114.2. To summon and suspend USG Officers;

Section 114.3. To reprimand or cite in contempt any USG officer or unit;

Section 114.4. To review and approve appointments by the officers of the USG;

Section 114.5. To review and approve the budget allocation of the USG, as presented by the Treasurer;

Section 114.6. To confirm all Commissioners of the Commission on Audit;

Section 114.7. To appoint its Counsel Officers, whose number shall be determined by the Judiciary;

Section 114.8. To draft and adopt its own Rules of Internal Governance and the Rules of Court; and

Section 114.9. To conduct impeachment trials for any USG officer, excluding Magistrates, who is the subject of an impeachment complaint.

Section 115. The Legislative Assembly shall prescribe the qualifications of the Magistrates.

Section 116. The Magistrates shall be duly appointed by the outgoing Executive Board and outgoing Magistrates, who shall vote separately, through a two-thirds (⅔) majority vote. Both the outgoing Executive Board and the body of outgoing Magistrates must agree in order to ratify the appointment.

Section 116.1. The outgoing Magistrates shall appoint Magistrates through the preparation of a list of nominees, provided that they display probity, independence, competence, and any other qualification determined by the Outgoing Magistrates.

Section 116.2. The EB shall appoint Magistrates from a list of nominees provided by the outgoing Magistrates in accordance with the qualifications prescribed by the Legislative Assembly.

Section 117. The Chief Magistrate shall be duly appointed by the EB from the appointed Magistrates through a two-thirds (⅔) majority vote, provided that they satisfy the qualifications they deem necessary at their discretion.

Section 118. The completion of the appointment of all Magistrates shall be at most forty-five (45) days after the General Elections. The term of the Magistrates shall commence right at the completion of their appointment.

Section 119. A Magistrate may hold office for more than one academic year, provided that they will undergo the same process of appointment and have at least three (3) terms remaining.

Article XIII. Constitutional Commissions

Section 120. The constitutional commissions, which shall be independent, are the Commission on Elections and the Commission on Audit.

Section 121. The commissioners must not have been candidates for any position in the election preceding their appointment.

Section 122. The Legislative Assembly shall prescribe the qualifications for commissioners of both constitutional commissions.

Section 123. Commissioners shall be appointed and confirmed within forty-five (45) days after the conclusion of the General Elections. The Legislative Assembly shall provide supplementary guidelines in cases of unexpected vacancies, failure of elections, and other situations it determines to be *force majeure*.

Section 124. Constitutional commissions shall enjoy fiscal autonomy. Their approved annual appropriations shall be automatically and regularly released.

Section 125. Commissioners may serve for more than one academic year, provided that they undergo the same process of appointment and have at least three (3) terms remaining. Commissioners appointed in the middle of an academic year due to vacancies shall serve only for the remainder of the incumbency of the other remaining Commissioners.

Section 126. Each commission shall promulgate its own rules concerning pleadings and practice before it or before any of its offices. They shall promulgate and adopt their own Rules of Internal Governance and Rules of Court. Such rules, however, shall not diminish, increase, or modify substantive rights.

Section 127. Each commission shall decide by a majority (50% + 1) vote of all its Members any case or matter brought before it within sixty (60) days from the date of its submission for decision or resolution. A case or matter is deemed submitted for decision or resolution upon the filing of the last pleading, brief, or memorandum required by the rules of the commission or by the commission itself.

Section 128. Unless otherwise provided by this Constitution, any decision, order, or ruling of each commission may be brought to the Supreme Court by the aggrieved party within thirty (30) days from receipt of a copy thereof.

Section 129. Commissioners shall be prohibited from holding any other position in the USG except for bodies wherein they shall sit on behalf of their respective commissions or in their capacity as a commissioner.

Section 130. The commissioners of each constitutional commission shall elect among themselves a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson/s, and Secretary according to their Rules of Internal Governance, Rules of Court, or Manual.

Section 131. Each commission shall perform such other functions as may be provided by law.

Commission on Elections

Section 132. The Commission on Elections, which shall hereinafter be referred to as COMELEC, shall decide on all electoral exercises within the University and have the sole and exclusive authority to determine qualifications for candidates and the conduct and procedure of any election and plebiscite.

Section 132.1. The COMELEC shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 132.1.1. Uphold and enforce the Election Code and any other law related to elections, plebiscites, initiatives, referenda, or recall passed by the Legislative Assembly;

Section 132.1.2. Exercise exclusive original jurisdiction over all contests relating to the elections;

Section 132.1.3. Register, after sufficient publication, political parties, organizations, or coalitions which, in addition to other requirements, must present their platform or program of government. accredit volunteers of the Commission on Elections. Religious denominations and sects shall not be registered. Those who seek to achieve their goals through violence or unlawful means, or refuse to uphold and adhere to this Constitution, shall likewise be refused registration;

Section 132.1.4. File, upon a verified complaint or on its initiative, investigate and, where appropriate, prosecute cases of violations of election laws, including acts or omissions constituting election frauds, offenses, and malpractices;

Section 132.1.5. Decide, except those involving the right to vote, all questions affecting elections, including determination of the number and location of polling places or method thereof, and registration of voters if necessary;

Section 132.1.6. Serve as the steering committee of electoral and other related activities and administer and enforce all rules and regulations relative to the conduct of such;

Section 132.1.7. Recommend to the Legislative Assembly effective measures to prevent and penalize all forms of election frauds, offenses, malpractices, and nuisance candidacies; and

Section 132.1.8. Educate students on the electoral processes of the USG and encourage students to exercise their right to vote.

Section 132.2. The maximum number of commissioners shall be equal to the number of colleges at the university.

Section 132.3. Commissioners shall be appointed by their respective College Presidents and then subject to confirmation by the Legislative Assembly.

Commission on Audit

Section 133. The Commission on Audit, which shall hereinafter be referred to as COA, shall have the sole and exclusive authority to examine and audit all accounts and expenditures of the USG and all of its branches, units, officers, and instrumentalities.

Section 133.1. The COA shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

Section 133.1.1. Uphold and enforce the Audit Code and any other law related to audits, finances, or fiscal policies whose provisions apply to the COA passed by the Legislative Assembly;

Section 133.1.2. Examine and audit all accounts pertaining to the revenue and receipts of and to the expenses and disbursements of every USG unit;

Section 133.1.3. File appropriate complaints against any officer it finds to have violated standing rules, processes, or regulations within its jurisdiction to competent authorities;

Section 133.1.4. Have exclusive authority, subject to the limitations in this Article, to define the scope of its audit and examination, establish the techniques and methods required therefore, and promulgate accounting and auditing rules and regulations, including those for the prevention and disallowance of irregular, unnecessary, excessive, extravagant, or unconscionable expenditures or uses of USG funds and properties; and

Section 133.1.5. Submit reports to the President, the Chief Legislator, and the Chief Magistrate every trimester.

Section 133.2. The commissioners of the COA, namely the Chairperson and two (2) Vice Chairpersons, shall be appointed by the EB and then subject to confirmation by the Supreme Court.

Section 133.2.1. The Commissioners must not have been candidates for any position in the election preceding their appointment.

Section 133.3. No law shall be passed exempting any entity of the USG or its subsidiaries in any guise whatsoever, or any investment of unit funds, from the jurisdiction of the Commission on Audit.

Article XIV. Convention of Leaders

Section 134. The Convention of Leaders, which shall hereinafter be referred to as COLE, shall serve as an advisory body to the President, without any executive or legislative functions.

Section 135. The COLE shall composed of all members of the EB, the Chief Legislator, the Chief Magistrate, all College Presidents, all College Representatives, all Batch Representatives, one representative from each recognized student organization, one representative from each unrecognized student organization, one representative from each student publication, one representative from each support or volunteer group of university offices, one representative from each culture and arts group, one representative from each athletic and varsity team, one representative from each other student organization or unit not listed, and immediate past members of the EB.

Section 136. The COLE shall serve as a venue where:

Section 136.1. The student leaders can suggest projects, programs, and actions to the USG regarding national, sectoral, and University-wide and academic-related issues;

Section 136.2. USG leadership can gather feedback on the projects, programs, and actions being undertaken by the USG;

Section 136.3. The student leaders can assess the performance of the USG and recommend necessary steps to attain its objectives further;

Section 136.4. Information regarding USG affairs can be disseminated directly from the EB to the student leaders;

Section 136.5. The student leaders can discuss amendments or revisions to the USG Constitution as needed; and

Section 136.6. Other discussions, activities, or functions may be held or conducted as deemed necessary by the USG President.

Section 137. The COLE shall convene once a year, preferably every second term of the academic year. The President shall have the prerogative to call for emergency meetings at times which warrant the immediate advice of the COLE.

Article XV. Elections

Section 138. The elections of the USG officers or the General Elections shall be held every third trimester of an academic year, except the election of incoming freshmen officers or Freshmen Elections, which shall be held during the first trimester.

Section 139. USG officers shall be elected by a plurality of all votes cast. A protest of a majority (50% + 1) against any elected officer by their constituent population shall render the election of such an officer invalid.

Section 140. The Omnibus Election Code shall provide the qualifications to be a candidate for the USG elections.

Section 141. The President, Vice President for Internal Affairs, Vice President for External Affairs, and Treasurer shall be voted into office by the members of the entire student body.

Section 142. The Campus Presidents shall be voted into office by the members of their respective campuses.

Section 143. The College Presidents shall be voted into office by the members of their respective colleges.

Section 144. The College Representatives and Legislators shall be voted into office by the members of their respective colleges on their respective campuses.

Section 145. The Batch Representatives and Legislators shall be voted into office by the members of their respective batches under their respective colleges.

Section 146. The COMELEC shall call for Special Elections within the first trimester of the academic year for vacancies arising from a failure of elections.

Section 146.1. If the COMELEC deems it necessary, the Special Elections may take place at the same time as the Freshmen Elections, also held during the first trimester.

Section 147. The term of the USG officers shall begin on the last day of the academic year and end on the last day of the next academic year.

Section 148. In cases of a failure of elections, the incumbent elected officers shall continue their term of office until new officers are proclaimed through Special Elections. In cases of two consecutive failures of

elections, the COMELEC shall have the authority to declare the positions vacant. The provisions stated in the Article on Vacancies shall take effect upon declaring the positions vacant.

Section 149. During Special Elections, the Dean of Student Affairs may extend the submission deadlines, filing period, or voting period, provided that any of the following requisites are met:

Section 149.1. The Presidency and both Vice Presidencies would all be rendered vacant after the Special Elections; or

Section 149.2. Less than four (4) Legislators would be in the LA after the Special Elections.

Article XVI. Vacancies

Section 150. The LA shall decide on the actions required for vacancies under circumstances not found herein.

Section 151. If a position is left vacant after the General Elections, there shall be no appointments until the conclusion of the immediately succeeding Special Elections.

Section 152. If incumbent officers are elected into a new position, the vacated position is now considered vacant if no one is elected in the current General Elections. No appointments shall be made until the conclusion of the Special Elections.

Section 153. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of the President, the Vice President for Internal Affairs shall take the position of the President while maintaining their functions and powers as Vice President for Internal Affairs until the necessary appointment is made.

Section 154. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of any EB member excluding the President and the Campus Presidents, the President shall nominate an elected officer or a member of or officer under the Cabinet to fill such a vacancy. The nominee shall maintain their functions and powers in their original position until their confirmation.

Section 155. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of a Campus President, the Campus Government Executive Committee and the Campus Legislative Board shall nominate an officer of the Campus Government as the next Campus President, who shall function in an acting capacity as such, while maintaining their functions and powers in their original position until their confirmation.

Section 156. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of a Campus Secretary, the Campus President shall nominate an officer of the Campus Government as replacement.

Section 157. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of a Campus Treasurer, the Campus President shall nominate an officer of the Campus Government as replacement.

Section 158. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of a College President, the remaining members of the CG-EB and the CLB shall nominate an officer from the same college as the next College President, who shall function in an acting capacity as such, while maintaining their functions and powers in their original position until their confirmation.

Section 159. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of a College Representative, the Campus President shall nominate an officer from the same college from their campus as replacement, while maintaining their functions and powers in their original position until their confirmation.

Section 160. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of a College Legislator, the Campus President shall nominate an officer from the same college on their campus as replacement.

Section 161. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of a Batch Representative, the College President shall nominate an officer from the same batch as replacement, while maintaining their functions and powers in their original position until their confirmation.

Section 162. In case of incapacity in the discharge of duties, removal from office, vacancy of position after the conclusion of the Special Elections, or resignation of a Batch Legislator, the College President shall nominate an officer from the same batch.

Section 163. Members of the Judiciary, the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Constitutional Commissions shall be excluded from being nominated to any of the aforementioned positions.

Section 164. The LA shall decide on nominations for members of the Executive Board, College Presidents, and Legislators. Campus and college-wide positions, except for the positions mentioned previously, shall be decided by their respective legislative boards within the same jurisdiction.

Section 165. Legislators nominated to another elective position and expected to perform the functions of said position in an acting capacity shall be prohibited from performing their legislative powers, duties, and responsibilities.

Section 165.1. Should they be confirmed by the LA, their position as Legislator shall automatically be deemed vacant.

Section 165.2. Should their confirmation be denied by the LA, they shall immediately resume their powers, duties, and responsibilities as a Legislator and cease performing in an acting capacity for their nominated position.

Section 166. A Leave of Absence for those holding elective positions shall be prohibited unless it is subject to the following conditions:

Section 166.1. The officer is a candidate for the upcoming elections.

Section 166.2. The officer is on trial for an impeachment case. Such officers are, however, required to resume their original posts and complete the term of their original posts after the approved duration of the Leave of Absence.

Section 167. An officer holding an elective position may only be allowed to resign on valid grounds as may be provided by law, subject to the approval of the LA.

Section 168. Any officer appointed to an elective position shall only serve for the remainder of the unexpired term of its previous holder or, if deemed vacant, the expected duration of holding the said office.

Section 169. A candidate unable to be elected in the preceding election due to abstention, non-validation, or electoral defeat may not be appointed as the unit head of any executive, legislative, or statutory unit or office or to any elective position during the same period.

Section 170. No person may be appointed to elective office unless they meet the requirements set forth for that office in the standing Election Code and as may be prescribed by law.

Article XVII. Amendments

Section 171. Any amendment or revision of this Constitution shall be valid only when ratified by a majority of the votes of each college cast in a plebiscite. The plebiscite may be concurrently held with the nearest general election.

Section 172. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed either by *bona fide* undergraduate students through initiative upon a petition or upon a vote of at least three-fourths (¾) of the members of the LA.

Section 173. Any amendment or revision of this Constitution may also be proposed via a Constitutional Convention to be called by two-thirds (⅔) of the LA.

Section 173.1. Each College President, the Executive Board as a whole, the Legislative Assembly, the Judiciary, the Ombudsman, the Commission on Elections, and the Commission on Audit shall each nominate a maximum of three permanent representatives to a Constitutional Convention.

Section 173.2. Each delegation shall be entitled to only one vote.

Section 173.3. The representatives may be incumbent or former members of their organizations. Resource persons may be invited to provide insights and opinions at the discretion of the members of the Constitutional Convention.

Section 174. No amendment or revision of this Constitution shall be authorized within three years following the ratification of this Constitution.

Article XVIII. Transitory Provisions

Section 175. All existing laws, resolutions, codes, rules of internal governance, and policies consistent with this Constitution shall remain operative until amended, repealed or revoked.

Section 176. All consent clauses within all laws, codes, and policies, which stipulate the consent or agreement of any other branch, unit, office, or body other than the Legislative Assembly, shall be inoperative for the academic year following the ratification of this Constitution. Such consent clauses shall be operative after the following academic year should they remain unchanged.

Section 177. Incumbent elected officers shall continue to serve until the expiration of their respective terms. In the event of a vacancy arising from structural changes under this Constitution, the provisions governing vacancies shall apply.

Section 178. All pending cases before the Judiciary shall remain under its jurisdiction and be resolved according to the laws and procedures in effect at the time of their filing.

Section 179. Before the ratification of this Constitution, the legal effect of the lapse of the applicable period for the decision or resolution of the cases or matters submitted for adjudication to the Judiciary shall be determined by the Supreme Court as soon as practicable.

Section 180. The Legislative Assembly, following the ratification of this Constitution, shall prioritize the promulgation or amendment of the following statutes:

Section 180.1. Cabinet Act
Section 180.2. College Government Code
Section 180.3. Administrative Code

Section 181. Mechanisms of the USG

Section 181.1. Batch Presidents and Batch Vice Presidents elected before the ratification of this Constitution shall continue to serve for the remainder of their supposed incumbency under the previous constitution.

Section 181.2. All elected positions unfilled after the ratification of this Constitution shall be elected in subsequent elections under this Constitution.

Section 181.3. Unless otherwise provided or determined by law, the existing Committees of the Executive Secretary shall continue their current functions. They shall temporarily be under the Cabinet and subject to the following:

Section 181.4. The Department of Activity Approval and Monitoring shall be renamed the Committee on Project Approval and Monitoring. It shall have no jurisdiction over the Legislative Assembly, the Judiciary, the Constitutional Commissions, the Office of the Ombudsman, and independent, statutory units. Its functions and operations shall be determined and directed by the EB.

Section 181.5. The Commission on Officer Development shall be renamed the Committee on Officer Development under the Cabinet. It shall have no jurisdiction over the Legislative Assembly, the Judiciary, the Constitutional Commissions, the Office of the Ombudsman, and independent, statutory units. Its functions and operations shall be determined and directed by the EB.

Section 181.6. All departments, commissions, units, and positions under the Executive Board before the ratification of this Constitution shall continue to be under the EB through a Cabinet-level officer or as may be applicable, unless otherwise lawfully dissolved, abolished, replaced, or revoked.

Section 181.7. After its ratification, all departments, commissions, units, and positions no longer recognized by this Constitution shall be abolished and deemed defunct.

Article XIX. Effectivity

Section 182. This Constitution shall take effect in the academic year following its ratification and supersede all previous constitutions.

Section 183. The USG must publicize the Constitution in their social media accounts for the knowledge of the general public.

Article XX. Publicity

Section 184. The amended USG Constitution must be circulated and publicized to the entirety of the Lasallian community through all of the official social media platforms of the USG. Upon approval of any amendments to this constitution, the various USG branches and the Legislative Assembly shall ensure that the updated provisions are disseminated effectively and immediately to the entire student body via social media.

Drafting Body of the 2025 Constitution of the University Student Government	
Law Commission	**Legislative Assembly**
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Passed by the Legislative Assembly on May 24, 2025	Ratified through a plebiscite on July 31, 2025